



National Fire Plan

Managing the Impact of Wildfires on the Communities and the Environment



South Dakota State Summary from Department of the Interior

Based on the National Fire Plan, the Department of the Interior (DOI) will implement a number of program actions to reduce hazardous fuels and their adverse effects on forest and range lands, mitigate the impacts of severe wildfires on rural communities, and enhance firefighting capabilities. In South Dakota, those actions will include the following:

Firefighting Resources

Preparedness

- Hire 13 additional permanent employees and 41 additional temporary and career seasonal employees; convert 20 positions to a more permanent status
- Purchase one new engine for firefighting

Research

Co-sponsor one research project under the Joint Fire Science Program

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

- Treat fuels on 5,876 acres in wildland-urban interface areas - \$290,000
- Treat 27,514 acres to maintain/restore range or forest health - \$1,111,000

Community Assistance

For FY 2001, the DOI was appropriated \$10 million to initiate a pilot program of grants to rural fire districts. The Department expects to assist approximately 830 rural volunteer fire departments nationwide with training, equipment, and supplies to increase their level of preparedness for wildland firefighting.

U.S. Department of the Interior

Tim Hartzell

National Fire Plan Coordinator

(202) 606-3150 (FAX)